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Sept. 3, 2015

Building for a Bright Future: Celebrating Harrisburg Academy's New McCormick Auditorium Commons

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Amidst many other back-to-school celebrations, Harrisburg Academy had one more thing to celebrate — completion of the McCormick Auditorium Commons, funded through Phase II of Bold Ambition: The Campaign for Harrisburg Academy. The McCormick Auditorium Commons project, part 1 of a three-part phase, focused on enhancing performing arts space by renovating both the foyer adjacent to McCormick Auditorium and the band room hallway, and constructing a new hallway.



“The renovated McCormick Auditorium Commons is warm, inviting, and raises everyone’s excitement for what will be around the corner,” said Jim Newman, head of school.

This most recent facelift leads the way, both literally and figuratively, into Phase II, part 2 of the Bold Ambition campaign — construction of a new music suite. Work will begin this fall, funding-dependent, and includes construction of the new music suite complete with two large instruction rooms, smaller practice rooms, and instrument storage. Part 3, scheduled for completion before the 2016-17 academic year begins, will focus on hallways and lockers. Also funding-dependent, this part includes new flooring, lights, and lockers in the four Middle School / Upper School hallways.

The Academy’s leadership is grateful to its trustees, current parents, faculty members, alumni, alumni parents, local corporations, and other Academy friends for their generous support of these bold and ambitious priorities. To date, the school has raised nearly \$2.7 million toward its overall campaign goal of \$8.5 million.

About the campaign:

The Bold Ambition campaign traces its roots back to December of 2013 when the Academy’s Board voted to proceed with the effort. The campaign’s focus is threefold: raise \$5.5 million for facilities renovation and new construction; raise \$1.5 million for increasing the Academy’s endowment; and raise \$1.5 million for the Academy Fund, the Academy’s annual giving program. The year of campaign activity that followed in 2014 — including growth of The John Harris Circle leadership giving society and Phase I of physical plant upgrades (Middle School and Upper School science laboratory renovation and new construction) — took place during a “quiet phase,” as the school worked to secure lead donors and put foundational elements in place before going public.

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In March of 2015, Academy trustees approved Phase II for facility renovations, a three-part project to upgrade and build new performing arts space. Additional capital campaign components, including construction of an Early Childhood Center and renovation of Lower School classroom space, will follow thereafter. For a comprehensive look at the Bold Ambition campaign and how to get involved, visit www.BoldAmbition.org.

About the Academy:

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg's only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12th grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website or contact Mary S. Campbell at 717-763-7811 or via email at campbell.m@harrisburgacademy.org.

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